

MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2020 Annual Report



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Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

The Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) is committed to providing the best in public safety, including prevention, protection, and efficient responses to emergencies, in a welcoming and safe environment for residents and visitors alike.

The dedicated, full-time emergency medical technicians and paramedics of the Milwaukee Fire Department responded to 67,559 emergency medical services calls and 16,255 fire/rescue/service calls in 2020 amidst the challenges brought by a worldwide pandemic and civil unrest. Its first response capabilities are enhanced through seven special teams comprised of 330 members expressly trained to handle specialized emergencies in areas such as hazardous materials, heavy urban/high-low rescues, water rescues, tactical emergency medical services in conjunction with law enforcement, incident command for handling multi-agency responses, as well as fire investigations. Despite the unprecedented challenges of 2020 and the need for social distancing during training, department-wide emergency training still reached 232,424 hours, only about 15,000 hours less than the previous year.

Every year, the department conducts onboarding of new fire cadets into its highly successful program offering a rigorous program which includes EMT and Firefighter Level I certifications, along with instruction in anatomy and physiology, Spanish for first responders, and driver/operator skills. Many cadets also complete National Registry Paramedic Training. Programs at different levels of instruction average 50 fire cadets at any given time.

Both the young men and women who were in their second year of the Fire Cadet Program, along with brand new recruits hired in March, all of which were licensed EMTs, were put into service in the field in late-March/mid-April to help serve during the COVID-19 onset. These members of the department had not even scratched the surface of field training when they heroically accepted the extraordinary challenge put before them by the MFD. Special COVID apparatus was also created and outfitted with personnel geared up with extra protection against the virus so first responders could as safely as possible, respond to those with the virus.

Unfortunately, another side effect of the pandemic was the inability of the MFD to spend time out in the community sharing fire safety messages. Installation of smoke alarms in homes had to come to a halt as well. Although the Mobile Survive Alive House was not able to be of service, the concept of the Survive Alive House was brought to a virtual platform by the Milwaukee Public Schools on September 14 with Congress Street School. The MFD added its videos and slide show normally experienced at the Survive Alive House to it. This virtual program reached 3,260 5th grade students during this first semester.

Beyond responding to emergencies, the department and its enthusiastic and devoted community partners also take part in proactive programming such as the Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program. A core group of Milwaukee Fire Department paramedics, along with community partner staff, worked with 1,049 patients in 2020 (a 64% increase from 2019), through avenues such as the Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative (MORI), the Post Discharge Evaluation Program, and new to this year, COVID phone calls. Together, they assisted high utilizers of the 9-1-1 system in finding long-term solutions through various resources to help manage chronic medical issues and reduce the need for emergency services and transports. The MORI helped 93 individuals seek treatment.

As for young adults seeking a career path of hard work, compassion and community service, the MFD Junior Fire Institute continued its fine tradition of providing a tremendously worthwhile and rewarding program to the students by pivoting to a "Zoom" format. Students were challenged to be engagingly creative. Keeping in touch, mentoring and monitoring these future leaders in society, proved to be key in checking in with the students' health, how things were going in their schools, neighborhoods, and families.

The Milwaukee Fire Department is committed to the mission of not only saving lives, but also enhancing lives through fire and health education, preparing themselves and others to give everyone the best chances, regardless of their situation. Every day I come to work knowing this city is actively protected with the best and most dedicated firefighters and support staff any city could have. I sincerely thank the brave men and women who passionately provide outstanding service in our community, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. These individuals repeatedly and notably go above and beyond the call-of-duty.

Sincerely,

Tom Barrett
Mayor

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As the Acting Chief of the Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) since October 31, 2020, I would be remiss not to recognize Mark A. Rohlif's decade-plus years of service as the 17th Chief to lead the MFD. His tenure here included a period of tremendous innovation, such as the sharing of fire department resources across boundaries throughout Milwaukee County, the advent of Mobile Integrated Healthcare / Community Paramedicine, and the Milwaukee Opioid Response Initiative. Importantly, he guided the MFD through some extremely difficult times with a calm and steady hand. The MFD extends its warmest regards and well wishes in retirement to Mark and Maureen and their family as they return to their roots in Omaha, Nebraska. We are certain that he will have many stories to share with them about Milwaukee!



As a fourth-generation Milwaukeean, I was appointed to the MFD in 1997 becoming a fourth-generation Milwaukee Firefighter. I humbly accepted the appointment to serve as Acting Fire Chief. It has never been enough to simply be in the fire service – the true calling is to be **of** service. The scope of our service provision has expanded dramatically, even in my time, and most certainly since the department was founded. This has had a huge impact on the scale and variety of job-related items that must be **known**. In 2020, we were called to do our job more frequently than at any point in the MFD's history. These variables conspired to place our members in harm's way to get the job **done** at what seemed a greater rate than ever imagined possible.

With the well-being of the community at their core, the men and women of this department possess a true understanding of the vital roles of their profession, and commit to the ongoing training and education required to meet the community's needs. We are indeed a "family," taking care of each other and the extended family of the community we serve, with commitment and integrity.

The fire service, like any other industry, comes with challenges. Calendar year 2020 collided into all of us with a course-altering impact. When the worldwide pandemic hit full force in March, the department began collaboration with countless health and safety organizations to create and arrange for myriad tools to keep members safe, and to safely render aid to those in need of our services, including those stricken with the virus in addition to managing the ever-evolving menu of roles the MFD was called to fill.

Health organizations collaborated in a mutually supportive manner never before seen. As we worked with the Milwaukee Health Department to understand the dangers of COVID-19 amidst ever-changing Federal and State guidelines, the MFD led the city with its mandatory department-wide masking mandate, resulting in an unexpectedly low positivity rate amongst its members. An extremely aggressive sanitation program and the cessation of all non-emergency activities also played key roles in this.

Aside from the operational strains, the MFD's other areas proved their irreplaceability in accomplishing the following: searching for and obtaining safe protective gear from a barren supply chain, creating specialty medical units to render aid to positive COVID-19 patients, providing the technological and dispatching flexibility to not only create new dispatch protocols but also to fulfil the early plans to host the City's Health Nurse call center, and deploying a first-ever cohort of academy recruits to augment field personnel almost immediately upon being sworn in. The MFD Command Staff was central in establishing the critical early communications pathways and inter-organizational structures at the City and County levels. The list goes on and on. Supporting bureaus of the MFD played a significant role in keeping the department steady.

Amidst the once-in-a-lifetime scope of the pandemic came a period of prolonged civil unrest; thousands of citizens were called to fight for justice, and for equity and equality on so many levels. People were angry, people were seeking ways to be heard, and to instill and expedite change. Voices were heard all around the country in response to specific incidents between police and citizens as well as politically at an extremely escalated level. These gatherings of highly motivated individuals required an ever-vigilant emergency services presence to maintain safety for all, protesters, police, and bystanders alike. I am proud to report that despite our own imperfections, the outpouring of support from protestors during MFD responses into or around protest areas was reaffirming. A very clear message was sent and received: even on our worst days, Milwaukee still holds its fire department in extremely high regard. Moving forward, we must ensure that we do not lose this critical and necessary trust.

Milwaukee was to have been the site of the Democratic National Convention (DNC), and as such was tasked with creating a safe and welcoming environment to convention attendees. The DNC morphed from occurring as scheduled, to not occurring at all, and all varieties in-between amidst the pandemic and civil unrest. The MFD was tasked with working with the United States Secret Service and untold organizations to fluidly adjust to the DNC's vision and plan. The final result was a nearly completely "virtual" platform.

Amidst a pandemic, civil unrest, and preparing for and implementing the DNC safety and security plan, the landscape of the city could be seen changing hour-by-hour on many days. Firefighters by nature excel at facing challenges with minimal information, and at times, scarce resources. As the entire City became an emergency scene in so many ways, heroes emerged among us.

This annual report provides statistics that may look a bit different this year. For example, training hours decreased because of both exposure-reduction needs and simply needing to spend the personnel hours in emergent COVID-19 situations. Personal hands-on fire safety presentations and community relations events came to a halt, critical in-person recruitment efforts were paused, fire alarm installations were stalled, and charity-affiliated events cancelled. Noteworthy is that the MFD still responded to every emergency situation it would have absent a pandemic, civil unrest, and the DNC, and these incredibly formidable events were added to everyday activity, taxing the department in every regard.

At our core, our mission is the same as it has always been – people experiencing a need that exceeds their abilities call us and we respond and start building a solution. After 150 years, the Milwaukee Fire Department continues its great legacy of providing fire suppression and emergency medical services to the community with the utmost of respect, dedication, and enthusiasm. On behalf of the heroic and devoted men and women of the Milwaukee Fire Department, I thank City of Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett, the Common Council, the Fire and Police Commission, and the citizens, for their continued support of the Milwaukee Fire Department.

Sincerely,


AARON LIPSKI
Acting Chief



BUDGET

Total Positions Authorized

874

Salaries & Wages (includes fringe benefits)

\$105,679,749

Operating Expenditures (supplies & services)

\$5,965,023

Equipment/Special Funds

\$871,460

Total Operating Budget (actual expenditures)

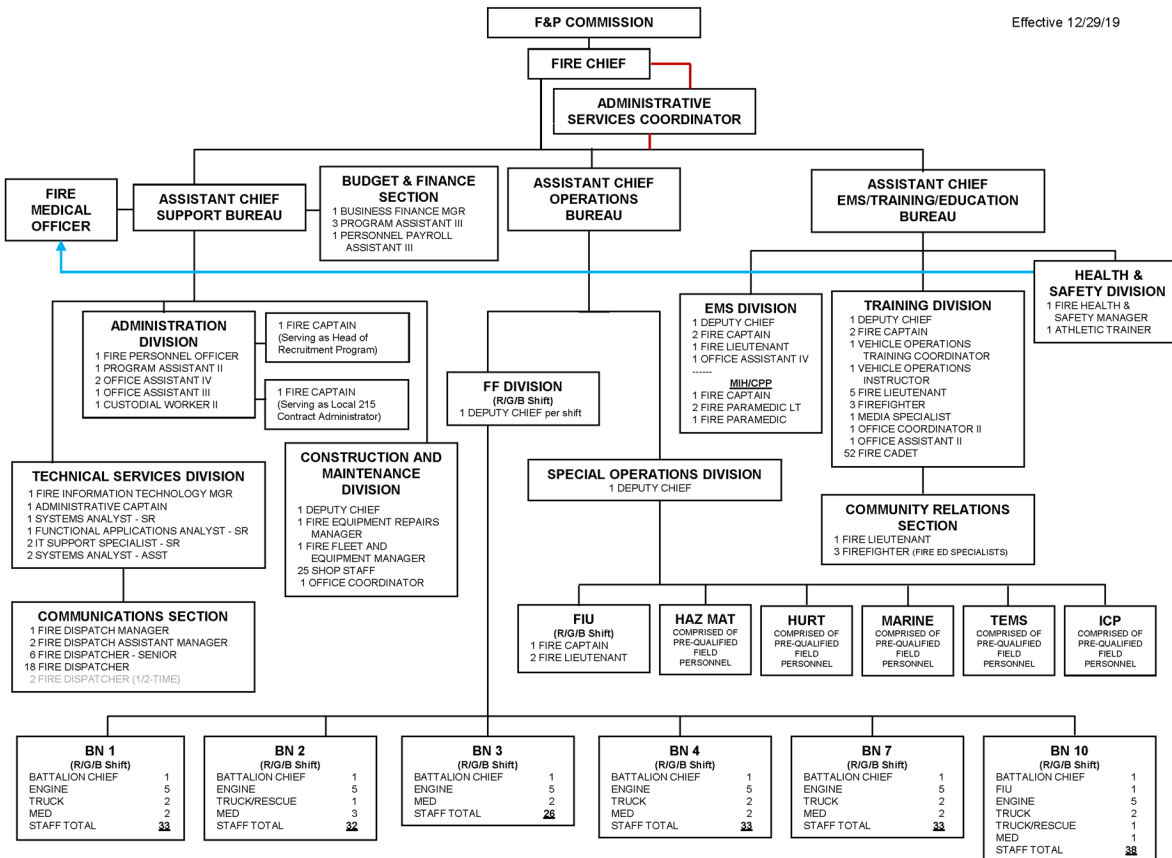
\$112,516,232

Capital Improvement Expenditures

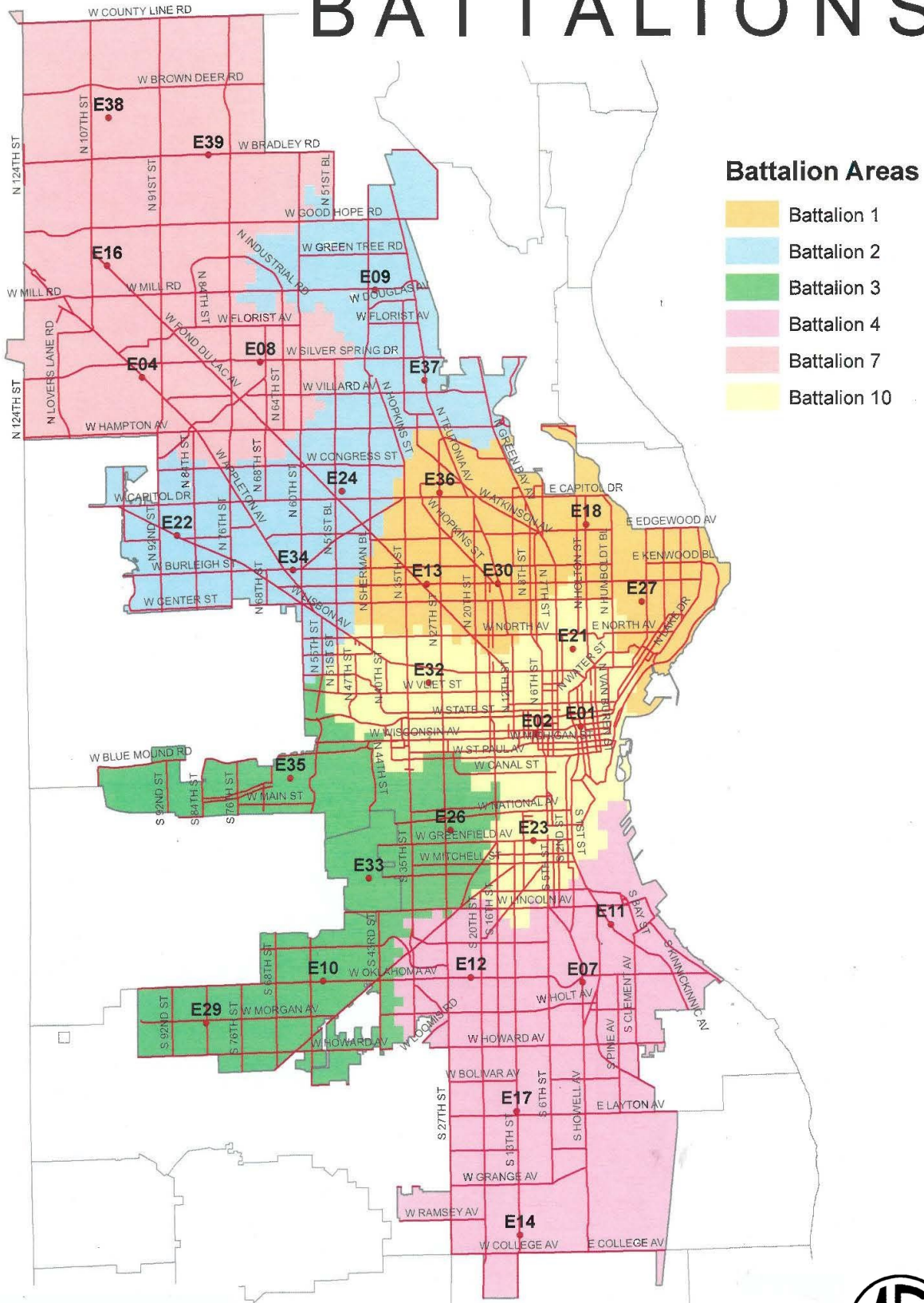
\$3,438,044

Revenues

\$6,068,600



BATTALIONS



BATTALION 1

The 1st Battalion encompasses the northern portion of the east side of Milwaukee stretching west from Lake Michigan to 27th Street. This battalion is home to five engines, two ladder trucks, and two paramedic units. Among the most notable of large campuses to protect is the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Master Lock, theaters and historic landmarks, along with a multitude of high-rise residences and businesses. The geography and structures provide unique challenges as well as opportunities to train and perfect the ever-changing craft of firefighting.

BATTALION 2

The 2nd Battalion covers a portion of the northwest side of the city to include the neighborhoods of Hampton Heights, Grasslyn Manor, Mount Mary, Old North Milwaukee, Franklin Heights, Sunset Heights, Sherman Park, Havenwoods, Washington Heights, and Dineen Park. Five engines, one rescue, and three paramedic units serve this section of the city.



BATTALION 3

The 3rd Battalion covers the southwest side of the city, in an area ranging from I-94 to the city's southern border along Forest Home and Howard Avenues, as far east as 16th Street, and out to the city's western border. Since 1991, there has been an intergovernmental agreement in which the MFD protects the Village of West Milwaukee. The 3rd Battalion serves over 150,000 with five engines and two paramedic units, with Station 33 additionally housing the Hazardous Materials Team, a Tier 1 regional response team. In addition to residential, commercial and industrial facilities, firefighters protect iconic Milwaukee venues such as the Milwaukee County Zoo, Mitchell Park Domes, and American Family Field. Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center and the Milwaukee Veteran's Administration Medical Center are also located in its confines.



BATTALION 4

The 4th Battalion provides emergency services to the area bordered by the southern portion of downtown to the southern city limits at College Avenue and from Lake Michigan west to South 27th Street. This battalion serves approximately 120,000 residents and countless daily visitors who were served by the five engines, two ladder trucks, and two paramedic units.

Engine 14 and Truck 8 identified significant target areas of mobile homes whose residents were provided with 911 education, smoke detector installations, and home safety inspections to help ensure fire safety to this group.

Battalion 4 created emergency response plans with Gilbane Building Company staff who were contracted to build an 8-story multi-use building at 120 West Becher Street. Companies in the 4th trained at these sites and continually performed walkthroughs as construction progressed.

BATTALION 7

The 7th Battalion, which is the largest geographically, covers approximately 36 square miles in the northwest corner of Milwaukee. Five engines, two ladder trucks, and two paramedic units are stationed in this battalion.

The area of the 7th Battalion is unique to the city because it hosts a large mix of single family homes, condominium complexes, apartment buildings, manufacturing business parks, some high-rise structures, and of notable hazards, a fuel storage tank farm. Not only does the 7th have this mix of building occupancies, it also serves incidents on Interstate 41 as well as state highways 145, 100, and 175.



BATTALION 10

Being in the heart of the city, the 10th Battalion encompasses all of downtown Milwaukee as well as the nearby surrounding areas, served by five engines, two ladder trucks, a rescue, and one paramedic unit. Bordered by Lake Michigan on the east, the 10th Battalion responds as far south as Oklahoma Avenue, west to Sherman Boulevard, and north to Capitol Drive before giving way to Shared Services partners. The downtown area and surrounding neighborhoods host many events including festivals, concerts, conventions and sporting competitions in venues such as the Fiserv Forum, Summerfest, Potawatomi Casino, the Wisconsin Center, and the lakefront.

Being in the midst of downtown, there are numerous high-rise buildings that can present challenges to firefighting. Two college campuses (Marquette University and Milwaukee Area Technical College) provide an ever-changing student population. Alter Trading (previously known as Miller Compressing) is a metal recycling facility which has been known to produce some eye-catching, though not dangerous to surrounding property, fires in debris piles; water supply can always be a challenge here.



In March 2020, the MFD found itself in the middle of a pandemic which would alter how it provided emergency medical services. There was an increase in the number of calls as COVID-19 worked its way through Milwaukee County. To assist with the increasing number of COVID runs, the MFD added COVID-response units to assist with these increasing call volumes.

In addition, come August of 2020, private ambulance turnbacks reached record numbers increasing MED responses significantly.

2020 ANNUAL RUN TOTALS

BATTALION CHIEFS

UNIT	ALS	BLS	FIRE	TOTAL
B1	32	9	934	975
B2	67	22	1607	1696
B3	21	9	607	637
B4	18	6	497	521
B7	16	6	573	595
B10	44	12	1157	1213

LADDER and RESCUE TRUCKS

UNIT	ALS	BLS	FIRE	TOTAL
L1	172	171	1017	1360
L2	161	188	1821	2170
L3	222	199	1463	1884
L5	75	70	1022	1167
L7	189	142	1405	1736
L8	39	24	361	424
L9	637	605	1878	3120
L12	527	436	1930	2893
RESC1	324	342	1521	2187
RESC2	375	352	2414	3141

PARAMEDIC UNITS

UNIT	ALS	BLS	OTHER	TOTAL
M3	4079	320	488	4887
M4	1671	380	984	3035
M5	4327	374	821	5522
M6	4110	350	427	4887
M7	2571	209	366	3146
M13	4189	311	744	5244
M14	2335	230	293	2858
M15	2295	334	583	3212
M16	3579	270	734	4583
M17	1836	211	437	2484
M18	2535	188	542	3265
M19	1484	221	637	2342
M20	326	162	243	731
M21	274	58	75	407
M24	127	48	20	195

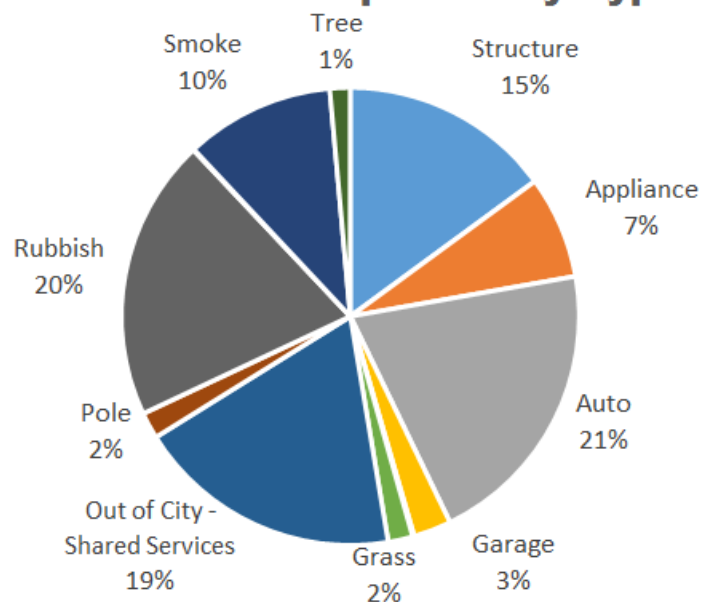
ENGINES and ALTERNATE RESPONSE VEHICLES

UNIT	ALS	BLS	FIRE	TOTAL
E1	654	757	696	2107
E2	979	1175	996	3150
E4	1211	1082	841	3134
E7	553	595	332	1480
E8	1678	1506	1304	4488
E9	1049	784	832	2665
E10	601	633	408	1642
E11	608	559	398	1565
E12	985	1013	521	2519
E13	2047	2025	1498	5570
E14	403	359	264	1026
E16	711	571	605	1887
E17	620	631	297	1548
E18	1064	974	712	2750
E21	1097	1127	766	2990
E22	853	786	762	2401
E23	1612	1833	654	4099
E24	1832	1518	1382	4732
E26	1498	1512	828	3838
E27	613	668	568	1849
E29	480	532	239	1251
E30	2040	1760	1046	4846
E32	2246	2167	1266	5679
E33	633	601	689	1923
E34	1469	1245	1111	3825
E35	411	435	353	1199
E36	1692	1393	1236	4321
E37	1548	1272	1088	3908
E38	618	551	563	1732
E39	943	830	787	2560
ARV02	68	71	453	592
ARV03	42	128	195	365
ARV04	3	3	1	7
ARV56	12	2	229	243



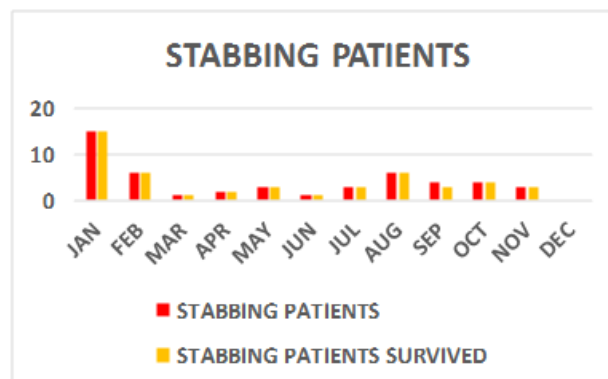
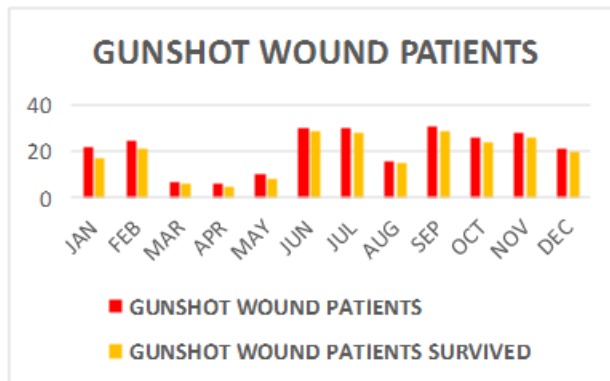
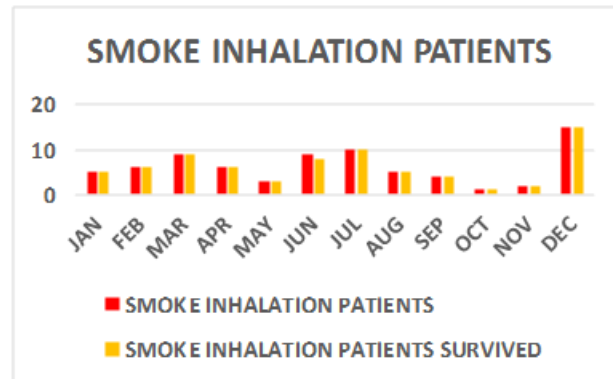
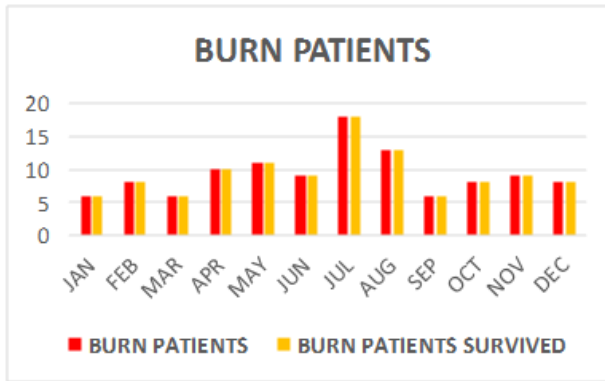
Fire Responses by Type	2019	2020
Structure Fire	514	591
Appliance Fire	284	287
Auto Fire	734	816
Garage Fire	70	106
General Mitchell International Airport	5	4
Grass Fire	37	69
Out of City - Shared Services	506	744
Pole Fire	77	74
Rubbish Fire	562	789
Smoke	363	417
Tree Fire	33	57
TOTAL	3,185	3,954

2020 Fire Responses by Type



Medical Calls Advanced and Basic Life Support	2019	2020
Abdominal Pain / Problems	768	775
ACN (Automatic Crash Notification)	0	0
Allergies (Reactions) / Envenomations (Stings, Bites)	499	479
Animal Bites / Attacks	91	77
Assault / Sexual Assault	864	539
Back Pain (Non-Traumatic or Non-Recent Trauma)	23	28
Breathing Problems	10,324	10,966
Burns (Scalds) / Explosion (Blast)	91	105
Carbon Monoxide / Inhalation / HazMat / CBRN	31	27
Cardiac or Respiratory Arrest / Death	1,344	1,591
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	6,257	5,856
Choking	184	216
Convulsions / Seizures	2,514	2,330
COVID (started March 2020)	0	387
Diabetic Problems	2,058	1,925
Drowning (Near) / Diving / Scuba Accident	2	9
Electrocution / Lightning	14	6
Eye Problems / Injuries	33	36
Falls	5,776	5,986
Headache	448	417
Heart Problems / A.I.C.D.	706	739
Heat / Cold Exposure	58	33
Hemorrhage / Lacerations	2,081	1,998
Inaccessible Incident / Other Entrapments (Non-Vehicle)	0	0
Interfacility Evaluation / Transfer	0	0
Overdose / Poisoning (Ingestion)	1,956	1,995
Pandemic Flu	1	0
Pregnancy / Childbirth / Miscarriage	1,174	861
Psychiatric / Abnormal Behavior / Suicide Attempt	424	401
Sick Person	5,463	4,574
Stab / Gunshot / Penetrating Trauma	962	1,116
Stroke (CVA) / Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)	987	990
Traffic / Transportation Accidents	6,159	5,089
Transfer / Interfacility / Palliative Care	1	0
Traumatic Injuries	850	717
Unconscious / Fainting (Near)	3,525	3,444
Unknown Problem (Man Down)	6,826	6,486
TOTAL	62,494	60,198





SUCCESSFUL HIGHLIGHTS OF SHARED SERVICES

All battalion crews train with surrounding Shared Services fire departments to improve efficiency and the ability to seamlessly handle shared incidents. These trainings enhance efficiency, providing for the seamless handling of incidents.

Crews of Engine 12, Engine 14, and MED 17, along with the 4th Battalion Chief and the Incident Command Post, responded to a working high-rise fire at 6260 South Lake Drive in Cudahy on August 16. This was a Mutual Aid MABAS Division 107, Box 14-11 alarm. Engine 14 crews found a victim on the fire floor in the fire apartment on the 10th floor.

Battalion 4 responded with crews of Engine 14, Truck 8, and MED 17 to a MABAS Box Alarm request in Kenosha on the evenings of both August 24 and 26 during civil unrest demonstrations.

In September, the 4th Battalion companies held training with the Saint Francis and Oak Creek Fire Departments consisting of use and familiarization of the Akron 2 ½" nozzle carried on MFD engines.

In order to provide the closest available emergency assistance in 2020, the MFD responded to 715 runs to neighboring shared services communities and those same communities sent aid to assist Milwaukee 772 times.

Notable Responses

- 5315 N 91st St: fire, 18-family apartment building, 2nd floor to attic, second alarm, multiple shared services companies; civilian injuries, no firefighter injuries.
- 7690 W Appleton Av: auto extrication from back of a box truck requiring technical rescue involving the Heavy Urban Rescue Team; 1 civilian fatality, 1 severely injured civilian.
- 1449 N 33rd St: house fire extended to 2 adjacent addresses, second alarm with additional special calls; 2 firefighter injuries.
- In the early morning hours of June 7, the Colby & Abbot building (326 E Mason St) suffered a three-alarm blaze which gutted the nightclub at that address and caused smoke damage to the surrounding six-story office building. It took crews approximately four hours to bring the fire under control and return to service.



The **MFD DIVE TEAM** was dispatched 44 times in 2020, compared to 26 times in 2019; a 70% increase in call volume. Two of the calls were out-of-city at Atwater Beach. There were 14 calls to the Hoan Bridge for jumpers; six of those resulted in recoveries rather than rescues.

Year 2020 proved to be a difficult year with COVID-19; training time was limited and resources were stretched in response to the pandemic, civil unrest, and the expectation of a full-fledged Democratic National Convention (DNC).

Despite these unique challenges, the following was still accomplished.

Significant Purchases

- Five dry suits as part of the annual replacement program.
- Ten wet suits and boots to replace irreparable suits/boots.
- Surface Supplied Air Unit through Interspiro.
- Zodiac raft to replace old.
- 30hp motor via DNC grant funding, allowing the Zodiac to be lifted by any truck.



Non-Emergency Response Activity

- Completed regulator rebuilds.
- Hydrostatically tested twenty bottles.
- Put nine new divers through a two-week recruit training course to replace divers lost to promotions and separations from service.
- Truck 2 and Dive members raised “Santa” (an MFD retired lieutenant) in the bucket on Christmas Day at Children’s Hospital so that he could wave to all of the children in the cancer ward. The families always appreciate seeing their children’s faces light up. Some members purchased super hero costumes and went into a Wauwatosa Fire Department bucket to do the same.
- Stood by to assist people with the annual “Polar Plunge” at Bradford Beach with MED 22, an all-terrain response vehicle capable of carrying up to four MFD responders along with a patient cot, providing the means to access injured persons in dense pedestrian areas not easily accessible with traditional emergency response vehicles such as the miles of Milwaukee lakefront.



FIREBOAT TRIDENT

Notable Achievements

- Prepared for the Democratic National Convention (DNC), a large-scale multi-agency event utilizing a robust incident plan.
- Developed strong relationships with the United States Coast Guard, Milwaukee Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other law enforcement organizations during preparation for the DNC.
- Performed small-scale training with Hummingbird Sonar System for proficiency in supplementing dive team searches.



The **MFD HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM (HazMat)**, as did all aspects of the MFD, had a year filled with challenges and opportunities to perform at its best. The HazMat Team was able to accomplish great feats even during a worldwide pandemic. The team would not be where it is without great leadership, and leadership starts at the top with the support and knowledge of the Deputy Chief of Special Operations who guides the team to meet and exceed expectations. The team experienced many changes in 2020, especially in its director and assistant director positions. The changeover was pretty seamless due to the professionalism and open communication between the members. With bringing in new officers in the house and on the team it allowed the HazMat Team to become more diverse. We brought in many new members and continued to strive to make the team resemble the department's goal of a truly diverse work environment.

The team uses a committee-based system which works tremendously well; six of them staffed with all in-house members. All committee chairpersons have taken ownership and have made large strides in improving each committee and the team.

Training / Community Outreach

- Trained with BIOWatch, a program overseen by the Department of Homeland Security. Samples are pulled to test the air for certain biological atmospheres at several undisclosed locations; this falls under terrorism expertise and responsibilities. The team gets notified by a lab and gets called out to test the area and deliver samples to said laboratory. This training allowed the team to become more familiar with the process, and therefore have a stronger grasp on how and where to pull samples.
- Members took an ammonia system class delivered by a refrigeration company which works on ammonia systems at cold storage facilities, providing team members a deeper knowledge of the dangers of ammonia and of those larger refrigeration systems.
- Joint Hazard Assessment Team training with the federal government and in connection with the Civil Support Team 54th Division provided team members with the necessary skills to operate at the DNC searching and monitoring event sites prior to scheduled events.
- Participated in radiation (Rad) training with the state and utilizing the Rad Responder Program was recently adopted by the state and provides real-time data from the on-scene responders of the current levels of radiation detected. Work continues with the state to improve the team's function with this software.
- At the onset of 2020, a bulletin entitled **HazMatter** was created and published to augment the team's training; topics have included the job performance reviews for which the team is responsible, and during COVID-19, has proven to be an effective method to disseminate information.
- Received propane kits A & B, along with hands-on-training, through a Wisconsin Emergency Management grant.
- The team shared its knowledge on metering instruction via a multi-day training event with employees of the cities of Greendale, Franklin, Cudahy, and Miller Brewing.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM (HazMat)

Training / Community Outreach...continued

- Over the course of three shifts, the team walked through Cargill Salt at 1835 South Carferry Drive, working with their crews to pre-plan for potential future events.
- The Air Force Guard 128th Division appreciated the teams' meet & greet format of demonstrating HazMat's capabilities and equipment.
- Assisted Canadian Pacific in filming a training video which will be used to train fire departments across US and Canada on how to respond to rail emergencies.

Significant Purchases

- A Ludlum Radiation Detector was purchased exclusively for finding small-to-larger sources of radiation at scrap yards as the State Department of Radiation is going to rely on HazMat to assist them in finding and identifying potential radiation sources. This meter will speed up the process of sorting through large bundles of scrap metal and other material to assess the level of threat.
- The below was purchased in anticipation of the DNC.
 - MT-94 suits (NFPA 1994 class 1)
 - MultiRAE Pro
 - ChemPro
 - Indenti-finder 2 – Radiation Isotope detector
 - Dosimeters
- Preparing to receive a new HazMat 1 rescue-style rig.



Incidents

- HazMat 1 responded to 13 calls, and HazMat 2 to 62 calls for service. Run totals decreased from the prior year because of less traffic volume due to more people working from home.
- Two significant responses include 8500 West Denver Avenue – Sulfur Dioxide LEVEL A entry, and an ammonia issue at Master Lock, 2600 North 32nd Street.
- HazMat 2 was struck and damaged in a motor vehicle accident slightly compromising it, taking away its ability to pull any trailer.

COVID-19 Impacts

- Shortly after the onset of COVID-19, the HazMat Team created a Firehouse Sanitation Program, established a schedule, and maintained an inventory of solution and workable electro-static sprayers. This program was very successful in preventing mass outbreaks as it pertained to firehouse spread. Department personnel were appreciative of the program, and of the department's commitment to their safety. The team also assisted the MFD Dive Team with sanitation of their emergency diver course.
- Set up and staffed the COVID-19 MED units, and assisted with writing policy for PPE and COVID-19 decontamination.



The **MFD HEAVY URBAN RESCUE TEAM (HURT)** was established in 1995 as a consolidation of the Rope Rescue Team and the Deep Tunnel Team. Since this merger, the HURT's capabilities have grown to include confined space rescue, trench rescue, structural collapse rescue, high and low angle rope rescue, advanced auto extrication, heavy vehicle lifting and stabilization, man-in-machine rescue, and firefighter survival. The HURT also handled deep tunnel rescue for several years in the early 2000's.

The HURT was originally housed at Station 12 located at 1400 South 9th Street on Milwaukee's near south side. Two fully staffed heavy rescue companies were established in January of 2012. This split the team into two locations; Rescue 1 is housed at 1400 South 9th Street, along with Engine 23 and Rescue 4 (trench and structural collapse rescue rig), and Rescue 2 is housed at 4927 West Fiebrantz Avenue, along with Engine 24. These two locations provided the city with enhanced technical rescue coverage as well as additional training opportunities. Rescue capabilities grew to include enhanced rapid intervention team (RIT) techniques, man-in-machine rescue, heavy vehicle lifting and stabilization, elevator rescue, and high-rise glass cutting. The HURT has partnered with several public and private organizations to gain realistic training and experience in different rescue situations. It continues to expand its equipment and capabilities to meet the technical resource needs of the City of Milwaukee and its Shared Services partners, as well as to train and retain new members. In the fall of 2020, the HURT successfully planned and executed a training class although it was challenged to design training scenarios which took into consideration social distancing precautions while still delivering realistic situational training. These countless hours of training were tested on several occasions throughout the year.

Notable Responses

The HURT was instrumental in the safe handling of multiple complicated vehicle extrications; aside from the "standard" light vehicle on all four wheels, HURT was utilized to handle several under-ride and rollover incidents.

- One specific incident involved a vehicle that under-rod a straight truck with multiple victims trapped. The members of Engine 24 and Rescue 2, with assistance from Engine 34, Truck 9, and Rescue 1, executed a complicated lift of the straight truck, while simultaneously setting up a cable system to pull the vehicle clear. The members of Rescue 2 then utilized hydraulic rescue tools to extricate the victims.
- Another run involved a vehicle on its side with the driver pinned inside with her hand trapped under the vehicle. Half of Rescue 1 and Truck 2 removed the roof while the balance of Rescue 1 set up a cable in preparation for a controlled roll of the vehicle to free the victim.
- The team was also called to assist with several other large-scale events including performing a structural assessment of a parking structure after a large explosion on South First and West Becher Streets.
- As a Shared Services partner, the team assisted with shoring a house in Wauwatosa which had a vehicle drive through it causing damage to its structural supports.





The **MFD FIRE INVESTIGATION UNIT (FIU)**, founded in 2009, is a branch of the MFD Special Operations Division. The FIU has 25 specially trained members, with one 24-hour investigator on duty at all times operating out of Station 2. All FIU members are IAAI-FIT (Fire Investigation Technician) certified with some members also working towards AAI-CFI (Certified Fire Investigator) certification.

The FIU is mandated by state laws and municipal ordinance to determine the cause and origin of fires within the City of Milwaukee, and is dispatched to scenes with damages over \$10,000, fire fatalities, fire injuries, and suspicious, incendiary, or trend-fires, responding with a vehicle which is outfitted with tools and equipment needed to support onscene fire investigations. The FIU reports annually on fire-related incidents using NFPA 921's four general classifications: incendiary, accidental, natural, and undetermined. Working with multiple agencies such as the Milwaukee Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the State Fire Marshal, determinations of how fires started are achieved, and then if criminal charges need to be pursued, the FIU works with the criminal justice system to support criminal charges through arrest, and if found guilty, sentencing.



Notable Achievements

- Investigated over 400 fires.
- All members of the team are Fire Investigation Technician (IAAI- FIT) certified.
- Four members pursuing Certified Fire Investigator (IAAI-CFI) certification.
- Three full-time FIUs received Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) training for their Bomb and Arson Tracking System (BATS) Program which will soon be used in Milwaukee.
- Continued FIU Strategic Planning Committee meetings.
- Continued researching similarly-sized departments to incorporate new ideas and expand the team.
- Worked daily with the ATF task force to identify fires that required additional in-depth investigation resulting in higher federal prosecution rates, and making Milwaukee safer in the process.
- Incorporated shared service partners in trainings while developing new relationships, recently with the Chicago FD.



The ***MFD TACTICAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (TEMS) TEAM*** consists of highly-trained MFD paramedics who possess additional education and practical training in tactical combat casualty care. These individuals provide medical care and support for both law enforcement and civilians during high-risk law enforcement incidents such as hostage situations, active shooter events, and civil unrest. The TEMS-specific heavy apparatus, staffed daily with four paramedics, allows the department the ability to surge two additional advanced life support (ALS) units when frontline resources are exhausted, providing the City of Milwaukee with unwavering ALS service coverage. When surge capabilities are indicated, the heavy apparatus asset is placed out-of-service, and MED 20 and MED 21 are placed in-service.



Incidents

- Responded to 117 requests from the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) to ensure both civilians and police officers had immediate access to advanced life support during high-risk tactical events. These requests included both scheduled requests like high-risk warrant service, and also more dynamic events such as hostage and standoff incidents, or other critical situations in which there is an increased risk of traumatic injury to the citizens of Milwaukee.
- Responded to an active shooter response at Molson Coors Beverage Company (a.k.a. Miller Brewing). Find more details in the Incident Command Post section of this report.

Training / Community Outreach

- Recertified four TEMS members via Counter Narcotics and Terrorism Operating Medical Support (CONTOMS). CONTOMS is a week-long course which focuses on training to treat the types of injuries which TEMS members would likely encounter in active shooter or other traumatic mass-casualty environments.
- Added new members trained through the MPD's SWAT 101 Course, and increased the number of members with a WI State EMT license/TEMS endorsement.
- Conducted a full-scale quarterly training for MFD members which covered back-to-basics trauma care fundamentals, and tactical movement drills with MPD Tactical Enforcement Unit.
- Facilitated interagency training with the TEMS Team of the Wauwatosa Fire Department, Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office, and the local Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) asset at the HEART Hospital.
- Delivered an active shooter presentation to two recruit classes, and facilitated mock rescue task force scenarios at the Milwaukee Safety Academy introducing the knowledge and tactics to the newest Milwaukee firefighters.
- Developed and distributed an Active Shooter distributive learning module for department-wide member instruction.
- Consulted with local and county entities in preparation for the DNC regarding staging personnel and equipment for a tactical response to the Fiserv Forum arena, along with stakeholder collaboration for equipment specifications and purchasing.



The ***MFD INCIDENT COMMAND POST (ICP) TEAM*** utilizes radios to equip command staff and field personnel to communicate urgent decisions. The ICP enables the command staff to make tough decisions within a limited amount of time by having quick access to safety data. The ICP is a combination of many facilities in one, including equipment, personnel, procedures, and communication operations within a common organized structure designed to aid in the management of resources.



Notable Achievements

- The Incident Command Post responded to 42 emergencies to provide support to the command staff.
- On, February 26, 2020, the Incident Command Post was dispatched to a mass shooting at Molson Coors Beverage Company located in the Miller Valley near North 41st and West State Streets. In one of the worst shootings in Wisconsin history, a disgruntled employee returned to his place of business and opened fire on his co-workers.

Multiple agencies were onscene, including the Milwaukee Fire Department, Milwaukee Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Milwaukee Sheriff's Department, Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Tactical Emergency Medical Support. The ICP Team arrived and promptly went into action by mapping out the perimeter of the area for the command staff, allowing for command staff to have a visual of where all emergency vehicles were stationed/located. For additional assistance, a telescope camera was raised to extend the visibility of the scene. Although this tragic incident took the lives of six people, the ICP was successful in the cooperation of cross-jurisdictional working relationships and the process for transitioning of authority as the incident complexity changed.

Strategic plans needed to be in place for protests to address the potential for violence and unlawful acts. In response to civil unrest, the ICP and a unified group of apparatus and personnel, including the Milwaukee Fire Department, Milwaukee Police Department, and private ambulance companies assembled and staged near cold zones (safe areas with little likelihood of unrest).

The ICP served as the operation nerve center where command staff and other public safety departments met to coordinate responses to wide emergencies. Effective communication is a critical element of the ICP to ensure a successful outcome is achieved. During these protests, the men and women who responded were nothing short of heroic. The civil unrest continued for numerous days and nights forcing first responders to work unprecedented hours. When conditions presented a safety concern due to protesters becoming too close to a designated cold zone, the civil unrest team had to pack up within minutes and relocate. Once the protesters disassembled, the ICP, commanding officers, and other joint agencies were able to return to normal operations and locations.



MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE (MIH/Community Paramedics)

The MFD's **Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH)** Program continues to play an integral role in how the MFD delivers healthcare and manages some of the most challenging patient populations in the city. An essential part of the long-term plan to reduce call volume and improve the overall health in the city, the MFD community paramedics took care of 1,049 individuals in 2020 across all programs. Patient engagements were conducted with interactions through established MIH Programs and partners, and a necessary temporary restructuring of the program to address the needs of the COVID-19 Pandemic in the community.



Programs included the Milwaukee Overdose Response Initiative (MORI), Post-Discharge Evaluation Program, high-utilizers of the 9-1-1 system, and COVID-19 phone engagement which provided ongoing support for those at high-risk for, or who tested positive for, the Coronavirus. Despite the temporary transition to providing phone support during the initial stages of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the MFD MIH Program was able to safely transition back to core initiatives and continue engaging those identified as being “high-utilizers.” A 70% reduction of use of emergency medical services was experienced by 276 unique individuals engaged in MIH.

Additionally, the MORI partnership with the City of Milwaukee Health Department continued to utilize an awarded competitive grant from the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO) to address the local opioid epidemic. In 2020, MORI attempted contacts with 1,954 individuals identified as having a possible substance use disorder, made successful contact with 689, and facilitated 93 of those contacted into a treatment program or with a referral to other services. Thanks to the dedicated support of NACCHO, the grant funding will help MIH to target mortality reduction in the community through July 2021.



To my MFD EMS Family,

As I reflect on the Milwaukee Fire Department as an EMS agency, I am in awe of the way in which we execute our rapidly changing mission on a daily basis. Our "front-of-the-house" staff in the field saw more than 50,000 unique patients in the past year, making us one of the largest health care organizations in the region. The EMTs on our engines, trucks, and rescues provided triage and treatment to the residents and visitors of the City of Milwaukee in situations ranging from small cuts and scrapes to those too precarious to imagine. Our staff of close to 200 paramedics adds to this care, providing ALS assessments, treatments, and transport to hospitals across Milwaukee County. As a supplement to our "normal" emergency operations, MFD members are able to access patients on bikes at the most densely packed events in the state, in every special operations situation imaginable, and alongside law enforcement when the risk presented to responders and patients is above our normal scope. In concert with the three private ambulance companies in the city, we are able to access, triage, treat and transport patients from every situation imaginable and deliver them to definitive care. As this system expands, you, the provider, will continue to be the source of relief for patients and their families in the most difficult minutes of their lives.

An agency as large as ours also has several "back-of-the-house" components which most people never see; however, are essential for a system of our size to run fluidly. This includes an education staff that trains new members and provides continuing education, a logistics team that procures, distributes, and maintains more than \$1 million in equipment, software, drugs, and supplies ranging from bandages to sophisticated computer systems that connect field tablets to our billing company. Our quality control in concert with our medical director continually evaluates and investigates unique occurrences, and develops guidelines and policies for field-level providers. Our dispatchers serve as the vital connection between those who call 911 with medical emergencies, and the units which respond to their location within a few minutes of that call.

The past several years have seen unprecedented innovation in EMS as we have built-out the ability to respond in a non-emergent mode to address the needs of patients with high utilization of the 911 EMS System, effectively removing those runs from our field companies and replacing them with a team focused on education and disease management. New technological solutions have allowed us to keep an eye on the evolving opioid epidemic, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic that has taxed EMS systems across the nation and the globe. Behind this is also an outstanding administrative staff which keeps hundreds of providers licensed, informed, and supplied with the things they need to deliver service to our internal and external customers. Finally, our EMS providers at both the EMT and paramedic level have been on the forefront of innovation, combining their knowledge of advanced medicine, data analytics, economics, hazardous materials, interpersonal communication, psychology, and research to lay the foundation that will guide EMS practice for the next twenty years.

Behind all of these huge innovations, initiatives, and encounters is you; the individual provider. Bringing your unique and diverse experiences and talents to bear to solve problems. You are the source of calm and confidence at the scene of an accident for the individual patient, and your contributions are invaluable at the system-level to improve patient care or ease the strain on responders. At not even the halfway point of the year, we took on, and overcame, more than we could have imagined a year ago. Planning a national political convention (twice), a still-present opioid epidemic, and the current pandemic have illuminated what I have always known; that there is no EMS agency, or fire department, quite like the MFD.

It's a pleasure and an honor to have the opportunity to lead this organization, arguably one of the best in the state, if not the world.

*With the deepest gratitude,
Joshua Parish NRP, MSc
Assistant Chief of EMS/Training/Education
Milwaukee Fire Department*



COVID-19 PANDEMIC ANOMALIES

- An extraordinary first for the department occurred when from March 28 – May 16, 2020, second-year Fire Cadets were taken from their 40-hour standard training schedule and added to field staff working 24-hour shifts. These members filled a newly created crisis position titled *Emergency Medical Technician [EMT]* in order to assist the MFD and the community during the onset of the COVID-19 global health pandemic.
- Fire Recruits hired into the March 23, 2020 Recruit Class were required to possess an EMT license, and as such, were similarly put into the field staff on April 9 with less three weeks of formal MFD training under their belts, returning to the class on May 11.



- It is to be noted that the instructors of both the second year Fire Cadet Class and the brand new Recruit Class had their work cut out for them to re-organize the instruction schedules to accommodate this unexpected interruption in the class curricula. Absolutely EVERYONE stepped up to this unforeseen plate with flexibility, grace, and enthusiasm to be what was needed, when it was needed.



DNC

The dream of the Democratic National Convention (DNC) showcasing the City of Milwaukee never came to fruition. The large crowds expected to exceed 50,000, and an influx of spending was curtailed due to the pandemic. The DNC 2020 was pushed back from July 13-16 to August 17-20 and became a predominantly virtual event with a few key exceptions. There were keynote speakers present every day at the Wisconsin Center downtown which correspondingly meant there was media and security present at the venue. Most importantly, the DNC 2020 was still considered a National Special Security Event by Homeland Security demanding the Secret Service's highest level of preparation and security. In short the planning, purchasing, preparation did not diminish; however, merely changed focus. The EMS Division provided advanced life support to the Wisconsin Center and the hot zone with a 24-hour on-scene presence in the Wisconsin Center, and paramedic bike support patrolling the inside and outside of the hot zone during declared peak hours.

SKILLS TRAINING

- Mayday Procedures - Changing frequencies blindfolded while wearing gloves, speaking through an SCBA face piece, radio channel usage for shared services events, and troubleshooting techniques were among the skills taught.
- Command Board - Scenario-based tracking of onscene companies, requesting additional resources, and tracking benchmarks were among the lessons.
- Foam - Tank farms are multiple high volume tanks which hold different types of fuels for distribution to gas stations around the metro area. These fuels are highly flammable and require the use of AFFF foam to extinguish. This foam removes the fuel from fire in much the same way that it protects against heat. A foam blanket on burning fuel holds in flammable vapors which can prevent the vapors from igniting. This same foam blanket can help to remove oxygen from the fire by separating the fuel and flammable vapors from the air.
- Truck companies were supplied with new extrication equipment which required sharpening skills and building familiarity with this new, lighter equipment.
- To aid in waterway rescues/recoveries, a Surface Air System is used to supply continuous air to rescue divers, and a Side-Scan Sonar is being used to map out the bottom of waterways to assist with identifying the location of victims.



The **MFD TRAINING ACADEMY**, located at 6680 North Teutonia Avenue, is shared with the Milwaukee Police Department. The Training Academy is led by a Deputy Chief with a dedicated staff of 19 including Community Relations and the Survive Alive House.

The Training Academy is responsible for training and educating every sworn MFD employee. It offers numerous programs including all-encompassing fire recruit instruction, a two-year cadet program, and department-wide in-service training. In addition, they also provide State of Wisconsin Technical College System Fire Service Training Certification Programs. Furthermore, the Training Academy provides its facility to other City of Milwaukee agencies.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- Total member training hours in 2020 was 232,424.
- Implemented department-wide software training to prepare members for the introduction of new tablets and patient software.
- Trained 50 paramedic bike responders to International Police Mountain Bike Association (IPMBA) standards. The training provided instructor-level training on technical and tactical riding skills.
- Conducted new member training for the Peer Support Team, Community Paramedic/Mobile Integrated Healthcare (CPMIH), and the Heavy Urban Rescue Team. This training allowed new members to become fully versed in all aspects of these specialized areas of the department.
- Graduated classes of 20 recruits and 43 recruits respectively, from an 18-week and 16-week all-encompassing class. Academics and skills delivered consisted of State Level Firefighter 1, State Level Firefighter 2, HazMat, vehicle extrication, and all of the MFD's operating procedures.
- Trained 23 recruits to enter the field in the capacity of MED unit drivers and EMTs during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Training was temporarily suspended and new units were added to handle the surge of COVID-19 with these recruits.
- Worked with the HURT to provide rapid intervention team training to enhance survival of injured firefighters. All members were trained to manage the removal of a downed-firefighter who was unable to assist with the movement from a basement window to awaiting MED unit personnel.
- Continued employees' development through the Professional Development Program including Fire Officer 1 and 2, ICS 300 and 400, and Vehicle Extrication. This state and federal certification training is offered for all members, providing the knowledge to operate within the MFD and become interoperable with surrounding agencies.
- Trained 33 civilians to become EMTs and the first step to becoming Milwaukee Fire Recruits. The testing culminated in a written and practical exam providing the student with the awarding of a National Registry EMT license.
- Prepared and provided training as necessary for the Democratic National Convention (DNC 2020). Training included responding to terrorist attacks, providing large-scale EMS services, new DNC equipment training, and coordinating/cooperating with outside agencies such as the Milwaukee Police Department, FBI, Secret Service, and other federal partners.
- Tested and evaluated various equipment to include fire protective gear, MSA G1 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, and power equipment.

The **Survive Alive Program** pivoted to a virtual platform for the fall 2020 school season, reaching 3,260 fifth-grade students.



The **MFD FIRE CADET PROGRAM** continues to be a successful avenue to give tremendous opportunity to high school graduates seeking a career in the fire service, while positively impacting the diversity of the firefighting workforce.

- 26 Fire Cadets graduated the Cadet Program to join the Fire Recruit Class of 9/8/20.
 - ⇒ 19 successfully completed MATC's Paramedic Program and will earn a technical degree.
 - ⇒ All 26 were temporally sworn-in for 7 weeks to assist the Shared Services initiative's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These cadets assisted paramedic units throughout the county with ALS and BLS Interventions for COVID-related calls.
- 26 Fire Cadets transitioned to the second year of the program and enrolled in MATC's Paramedic Program.
- 26 new Fire Cadets were hired on October 5, 2020. All 26 successfully completed the academic portion of the Firefighter 1 and successfully passed WTCS's written exam.
- Fire Cadet Demographics
 - ⇒ 26% female (According to NFPA in 2018, only 4% of career firefighters are female.)
 - ⇒ 52 % are people of color (26% black / 20% Hispanic / 6% Asian)
 - ⇒ 2 Cadets are the department's first Hmong employees; both fluent speaking in Hmong
 - ⇒ 3 Cadets were born in other countries and immigrated to the US



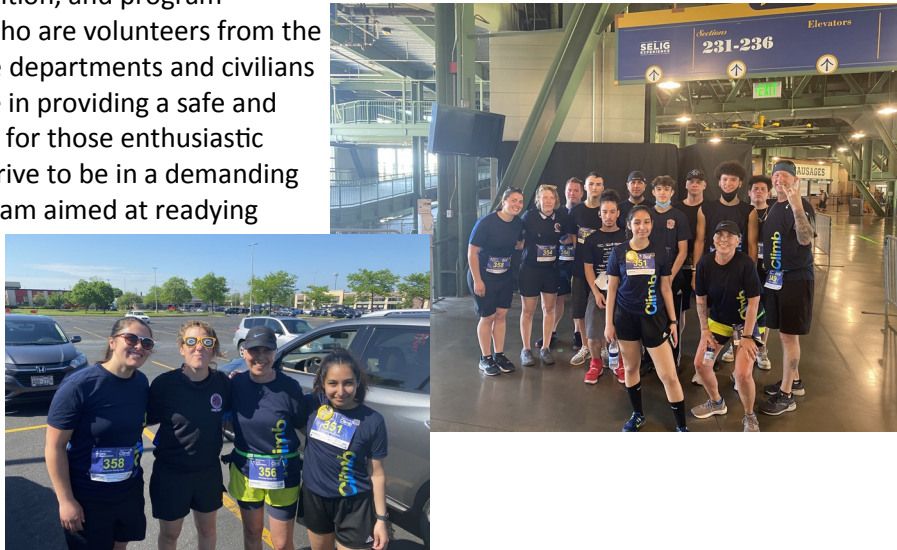
The **MFD JUNIOR FIRE INSTITUTE (JFI)** retained its non-profit status, and continues to provide a fun, safe, and rewarding program to all its students at absolutely no charge, which helps to ensure accessibility to all members of the community.

The program is designed for students 14 – 20 years old who have expressed an interest in the fire service. Students may join the program at any time. They are given a monthly opportunity to experience basic firefighting, first aid skills, and leadership opportunities, with a focus on courage, integrity, and honor. These opportunities serve to help students decide if firefighting and emergency medical technician careers are ones they would like to pursue.

The JFI is proud to have continued to serve its community and students in the midst of a global pandemic by pivoting to a completely online “Zoom” format. Although membership had decreased there was still great success in engaging and educating. Monthly check-ins proved key to the health of the students, and gave them an opportunity to discuss how things were going in the schools, their neighborhoods, and their families.

In 2020, the program instituted its first annual “Integrity Challenge;” students volunteered to participate in a combined virtual and in-person format which had them participate in physical challenges as well as find new ways to volunteer safely in their community. The event culminated in a socially distanced in-person luncheon and presentation of book reports, and volunteer service.

The Milwaukee Fire Department has a rich history of serving the youth of the community and has been working with local students such as these for over twenty years. Year 2020 proved no exception to that tradition, and program organizers/advisors who are volunteers from the MFD, surrounding fire departments and civilians alike, took great pride in providing a safe and rewarding experience for those enthusiastic individuals with the drive to be in a demanding and worthwhile program aimed at readying them for success.



MFD HONOR GUARD 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

Due to COVID, event totals were down quite a bit from a typical 60+ to just 43; most of these obviously funerals. Typical training clinics with other honor guards did not occur, and there has been a loss of members who have become less active in recent years. Year 2021 will require reorganization in the hopes of returning to some semblance of “normal.”



The ***MFD HEALTH and SAFETY DIVISION***, like all areas of the department, successfully met the unique and challenging aspects of 2020. In February the Peer Support Team provided a coordinated response to the MFD's own line-of-duty death, followed by a strong response to Miller Coors for the mass shooting on February 26. As hard as these kind of events are, it is an honor to support department brothers and sisters.

As the COVID-19 pandemic hit, a COVID Response Team was quickly "stood-up" in the division. This team managed and staffed a COVID-19 testing site, traced contacts from all runs and in-house exposures, as well as managed quarantining members following those exposures and positive diagnoses. This proved to be a stressful time for all of the MFD, taxing resources while department members managed individual illnesses, exposures, and sickness at home along with the unique challenges of home schooling and isolation from friends and family. Efforts were made to support members and their families through education and individual contacts.



The Peer Fitness Team (PFT) had many accomplishments during 2020. Woodway treadmills and Olympic Hex Bars were delivered to all station houses early in 2020. Inventory was completed at all stations and each was supplied equally with fitness equipment. The PFT Program developed a new structure which allowed more members to be actively involved with the program; this included in September holding FIT Camps at Station 5, five days a week.



The Peer Support Team (PST) held two classes to onboard five new members. Retired members were added to the team, including a retired Chief who will be a significant asset to support command staff.

The Division worked with Local 215 to add a mental health section to the retiree newsletter, and created a video encouraging preventive mental health services by reducing the stigma of mental illness.



The ***MFD CONSTRUCTION and MAINTENANCE DIVISION***, located at 118 West Virginia Street, provided unwavering and exemplary service to the citizens of Milwaukee, as well as firefighters during 2020, a year like no other this support division previously faced. This is done by designing, purchasing, and maintaining a fleet of 200 vehicles at-the-ready to respond.

In addition, this staff of 28 maintains 40 fire stations and service buildings, as well as all equipment such as self-contained breathing apparatus, extrication equipment, and emergency medical equipment used at lifesaving incidents. In addition to the vital day-to-day tasks of building, fleet, and equipment upkeep, this division supports other City departments, state and federal agencies, nearby protective services departments, participates in community relations / training programs, and spearheads the cancer prevention / firefighter safety initiative.

HIGHLIGHTS

VEHICLES:

- Prepared specifications and ordered two fire platforms
- Prepared specifications and ordered one HazMat unit

EQUIPMENT UPGRADES AND INSTALLATIONS:

- Installed four safety protection doors at Fire Stations 13 and 30

CANCER/INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAMS:

- Increased and improved PPE washing capabilities

UL INSPECTIONS:

- Completed 3 UL inspections

SIGNIFICANT DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT/TOOL PURCHASES:

- Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for the entire department
- Battery-powered chain saws
- Battery-powered fans

WORK ORDERS: CREATED/COMPLETED

- Vehicles: 3053
- Supplies: 2043
- Fire Stations: 1641

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

- Oversaw the purchasing, inventory tracking, and accountability of DNC equipment
- Oversaw the setup of five COVID-19 response vehicles and stations
- Met needs of the civil unrest responses

ENERGY REDUCTION PROJECTS:

- Installed LED lighting in apparatus bays at Stations 16, 17, 21 and the Training Academy



The **MFD ADMINISTRATION DIVISION** and the **BUDGET and FINANCE SECTION** are located at 711 West Wells Street, on the third floor of Fire Station #2. This small, yet efficient and dependable staff provides human resources functions for all department members, handles budgeting and financial aspects of the department as a whole, and daily provides fire and emergency medical services reports to requesters. The offices of the Chief and Assistant Chiefs are also at this location, and all directives from them originate from Administration.

The MFD is a service organization, and although most of the business functions of this staff are routine in nature, processes are continuously refined to maintain outstanding efficiency. These professionals continue to meet the challenges of an ever-changing environment while adjusting to new technology and policies, as well as updated government laws.

APPOINTMENTS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE
FMECH	CIESLAK, JOEL K.	03/09/2020
FIREF	ANDERSON, LAMONT A.	03/23/2020
FIREF	BARNOWSKI, GREGORY O.	03/23/2020
FIREF	COLE, DIAMOND C.	03/23/2020
FIREF	FRYER, JORDAN I.	03/23/2020
FIREF	GRAU, COLLIN W.	03/23/2020
PARFF	HIPPMAN, NICHOLAS E.	03/23/2020
FIREF	JARDANOWSKI, CHRISTIAN C.	03/23/2020
FIREF	LACOUNT, KALI M.	03/23/2020
PARFF	MARQUETTE, ALEC C.	03/23/2020
FIREF	MCMILLAN, SEAN W.	03/23/2020
FIREF	MORAN, JENNIFER C.	03/23/2020
FIREF	STILLE, TODD A.	03/23/2020
PARFF	VELAZQUEZ, JASON G.	03/23/2020
PARFF	VOLZ, NATHANIEL J.	03/23/2020
FIREF	WILSON, CODY U.	03/23/2020
FIREF	WILSON, ROBERT M.	03/23/2020
FMECH	BENEDICT, LINDSAY M.	04/06/2020
FIREF	GANGEMI, CHRISTOPHER R.	05/13/2020
FMEDO	IDARRAGA, SAMUEL H.	06/15/2020
FMTEC	LLANOS-ALDAPE, PABLO	08/10/2020
FMTEC	WILLIAMS, CHELSEY L.	08/10/2020
FIREF	ARENDT, JOHN N.	09/08/2020
FIREF	AWE, SHAWN J.	09/08/2020
PARFF	BARLOCK, SAMUEL D.	09/08/2020
PARFF	BISHOP, PHILLIP C.	09/08/2020
PARFF	BROOKS, ANDREW D.	09/08/2020
FIREF	BRUCE-KONUAH, GLENN A.	09/08/2020
CADET	CANINO, JARED A.	09/08/2020
FIREF	COLE, DIAMOND C.	09/08/2020
FMECH	FERNANDEZ RODRIGUEZ, FERMIN	09/08/2020



APPOINTMENTS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE
FIREF	GARDNER, NICHOLAS K.	09/08/2020
FIREF	KIMBLE, STEPHEN L.	09/08/2020
PARFF	KUMMER, DUSTIN T.	09/08/2020
FIREF	MARTINEZ, LAURO A.	09/08/2020
FIREF	MAYER, NATHAN D.	09/08/2020
FIREF	MCMENAMIN, RYAN A.	09/08/2020
FIREF	MYSZKA, LUKE E.	09/08/2020
PARFF	PABELICK, STEPHEN A.	09/08/2020
PARFF	RONDEAU, TAI V.	09/08/2020
FIREF	SILVIS, PETER A.	09/08/2020
FIREF	TIEGS, NATHAN W.	09/08/2020
FIREF	WALLNER, MARTIN E.	09/08/2020
PAINT	ANDERSON, KEITH	09/20/2020
FEMAC	FRANCO, DANIEL	09/20/2020
HEQOP	DUNHAM, MATTHEW T.	09/21/2020
HEQOP	POPPY, JOSHUA A.	09/21/2020
CADET	ABDUR-RAHIM, KHALIF R.	10/05/2020
CADET	CARLOS ANDRES, KAREN D.	10/05/2020
CADET	COFTA, SIREE L.	10/05/2020
CADET	DELVAL, MARIO A. JR.	10/05/2020
CADET	DRISKILL, AMOS L.	10/05/2020
CADET	FLORES, AMARYLIS	10/05/2020
CADET	FRUNCEK, TYLER S.	10/05/2020
CADET	GISSIBL, EDEN L.	10/05/2020
CADET	HUFF, JEREMIAH M.	10/05/2020
CADET	JIMENEZ, JOSE A.	10/05/2020
CADET	KOWALSKI, JAMES R.	10/05/2020
CADET	MAYDAK, JACOB T.	10/05/2020
CADET	MILLER, MAKENA J.	10/05/2020
CADET	OSHEA, LIAM T.	10/05/2020
CADET	RODRIGUEZ, VICTORIA L.	10/05/2020
CADET	WENIGER, ANTHONY J.	10/05/2020
CADET	WU, MATTHEW X.	10/05/2020
CADET	BRESSLER, SOLOMON J.	10/08/2020
CADET	SANDERS, SILAS I.	10/08/2020
CADET	VEY, ANDREW J.	10/08/2020
CADET	WRIGHT, CESLEY J. IV	10/08/2020
CADET	GARCIA, YESENIA E.	10/12/2020
CADET	WILLIAMS, MARQUIS T.	10/12/2020
CADET	GLANCEY, COLLIN J.	10/15/2020
SYSAA	KIFILE, TATTIANA T.	11/15/2020
CADET	CARLOS ANDRES, KAREN D.	12/28/2020



PROMOTIONS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE
DEPCH	LIPSKI, DANIEL C.	02/09/2020
BNCHF	VOSSEKUIL, ANDREW J.	02/09/2020
LIEUT	LUCHT, CALEB J.	02/09/2020
LIEUT	BELOTT, JONATHAN M.	02/09/2020
LIEUT	WOODS, DIONTRA M.	02/09/2020
BNCHF	FIRNROHR, RONALD L. JR.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	NAWROCKI, JACOB M.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	ALWIN, SCOTT R. II	03/08/2020
FCAPT	ZIDEK, DANIEL G.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	BYKOWSKI, ALAN C.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	LESZCZYNSKI, TIMOTHY M.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	TROST, NICKOLAS D.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	GIEGERICH, BRIAN W.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	ZIECH, JAMES H.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	STARR, JEREMY S.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	HARGARTEN, ANDREW M.	03/08/2020
FCAPT	NADBORALSKI, JOSEPH C.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	MATHAUS, JOHN J.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	BUDNOWSKI, STEVEN S.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	TADYSAK, PHILLIP J.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	THUROW, MICHAEL S.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	JAUCH, DAVID E.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	LYONS, GREGORY A.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	FREITAG, JEFFREY S.	03/08/2020
LIEUT	FLICK, JOSEPH M.	03/08/2020
DEPCH	TIMM, ANDREW P.	06/14/2020
BNCHF	JONES, THOMAS S.	06/14/2020
FCAPT	HEPP, KRISTIN A.	06/14/2020
FCAPT	BLAND, ROBERT M.	06/14/2020
FCAPT	LIEBHERR, JASON M.	06/14/2020
FCAPT	ROSS, RANDY M. JR.	06/14/2020
VOINS	FELZER, DANIEL J.	06/14/2020
LIEUT	KING, NATHAN A.	06/14/2020
LIEUT	BUBOLZ, JACOB A.	06/14/2020
LIEUT	GAGLIONE, ANTHONY W.	06/14/2020
LIEUT	WILDE, JOSHUA J.	06/14/2020
LIEUT	COCKROFT, PHILIP J.	06/14/2020
FFEMG	NASH, AARON A.	06/14/2020
BNCHF	PETERBURS, DARIN T.	08/09/2020
FCAPT	SELLS, THOMAS J.	08/09/2020
FCAPT	JACOBS, ANTHONY	08/09/2020
FCAPT	KRAAI, KARL H.	08/09/2020
LIEUT	BAUS, BENJAMIN R.	08/09/2020
LIEUT	THUNDERCLOUD, MATTHEW D.	08/09/2020



PROMOTIONS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE
LIEUT	ZAWORSKI, JOHN D.	08/09/2020
LIEUT	DICKINSON, JOHN R.	08/09/2020
LIEUT	ROSS, JASON M.	08/09/2020
FISMG	OBMANN, DANIELLE S.	08/09/2020
FCAPT	KREIL, AARON M.	10/04/2020
FCAPT	LANG, JEFFREY H.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	BELOTT, JONATHAN M.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	BURKE, MICHAEL K.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	HENNESSY, ZACHARY J.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	DRAEGER, ERIC A.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	WOLTERS, MATTHEW J.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	HERMANN, MICHAEL D.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	UNGER, ADAM N.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	DOERR, JUSTIN P.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	DEHLI, CHRISTOPHER W.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	REHBERGER, ROBERT M.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	CIGANEK, SANDRA K.	10/04/2020
LIEUT	MCCARTHY, EMMET J.	11/15/2020
FDAMG	PEPLINSKI, BRYCE W.	11/15/2020
DEPCH	SMOOTS, DE WAYNE	11/29/2020
BNCHF	HENSLEY, DAVID J.	11/29/2020
FCAPT	SHARP, MICHAEL A.	11/29/2020
FCAPT	VINSON, BLAKE W.	11/29/2020
LIEUT	LANE, TONNIE	11/29/2020
LIEUT	THOMAS, SHANE A.	11/29/2020
AFCHF	PARISH, JOSHUA E.	12/13/2020
DEPCH	PURIFOY, SHARON P.	12/13/2020
BNCHF	LANGER, BRIAN K.	12/13/2020
FCAPT	BUTLER, HIBERTO M.	12/13/2020
LIEUT	PICKETT, STEVEN F.	12/13/2020
LIEUT	AITCH, EZRA C.	12/13/2020
OFCO2	JULSON, BETHANY L.	12/27/2020

RANK	NAME	DATE
FIREF	COLE, DIAMOND C. / Went on Workers Comp	04/15/2020
	COLE, DIAMOND C. / Returned from Workers Comp	09/08/2020



SEPARATIONS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE LEFT
CADET	MUNOZ, ANTONEO	01/02/2020
FMTEC	SANCHEZ, FAVIAN	01/04/2020
HEQOP	DUNHAM, MATTHEW T.	01/08/2020
BNCHF	GROTH, RAYMOND A.	01/08/2020
FFEMG	GADZALINSKI, RICHARD M.	01/11/2020
FIREF	JONES, DARRIN	02/01/2020
HEQOP	POPPY, JOSHUA A.	02/05/2020
PARFF	PHILLIPS, TYLER D.	02/15/2020
FCAPT	HALBUR, THOMAS G.	02/22/2020
DEPCH	VANROO, TODD J.	02/23/2020
HEQOP	HARRIS, DAVID J. III	02/28/2020
FIREF	VOELTNER, DAVID W.	03/01/2020
HEQOP	SAWINSKI, JEFFREY D.	03/26/2020
LIEUT	KOMESAR, PAUL A.	03/30/2020
FCAPT	HALL, SCOTT A.	03/31/2020
FIREF	PISAREK, KENNETH W.	04/01/2020
FIREF	BERRUETA, ALEXANDER	04/02/2020
FIREF	CAMMILLERI, KYLE R.	04/02/2020
FCAPT	PAULIN, WILLIAM J.	04/18/2020
LIEUT	NOWAK, MICHAEL E.	04/18/2020
FCAPT	STAMSCHORR, CHARLES D.	04/18/2020
LIEUT	KIETZKE, CHRISTOPHER J	04/23/2020
FIREF	LYON, TIMOTHY J.	04/26/2020
LIEUT	CASAREZ, JAMES M.	05/01/2020
FIREF	LOVE, SHELTON L.	05/02/2020
FIREF	MRAZ, JENNIFER A.	05/16/2020
FIREF	BERGER, STEPHEN P.	05/18/2020
FIREF	STOCKS, JOHN D.	05/21/2020
LIEUT	HOLCOMB, LOWELL D.	05/22/2020
FIREF	PRIMUS, DAVID	05/25/2020
HEQOP	BURCZYK, PETER J.	05/25/2020
FCAPT	WENDLICK, DARYL E.	05/27/2020
FIREF	KELLER, CHRISTOPHER J.	05/28/2020
ACAPT	PEDERSON, JOHN T.	05/30/2020
HEQOP	BERTRAM, LANCE M.	05/31/2020
HEQOP	MILLER, TIMOTHY J.	05/31/2020
BNCHF	HARDY, JAMES A.	05/31/2020
FIREF	KINNEBREW, PHAROAH K.	06/01/2020
DEPCH	BLACKWOOD, MICHAEL M.	06/02/2020
FDAMG	DOBERSTEIN, COURTNEY LH	06/03/2020
FMEDO	ADLAM, ROBERT T.	06/13/2020
FCAPT	PIPPIN, LAMON	06/15/2020



SEPARATIONS -- in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE LEFT
ITSSP	JENT, ERIC J.	06/16/2020
HEQOP	PEDEN, MICHAEL	06/17/2020
FEMAC	WERNER, KEITH A.	06/26/2020
FIREF	MADDEROM, BRIAN R.	06/27/2020
PAINT	WICKER, DOUGLAS A. III	06/27/2020
FCAPT	GRADE, MARK H.	06/30/2020
FIREF	DUCHOW, JAMES D.	06/30/2020
FIREF	GROSS, DENNIS J.	07/10/2020
LIEUT	RODRIGUEZ, ENRIQUE	07/10/2020
FIREF	WACHOWIACZ, BRIAN D.	07/15/2020
PARFF	ANTKOWSKI, JOHN R.	07/15/2020
FIREF	ACKER, WILLIAM L.	07/17/2020
FIREF	THOMPSON, JASON R.	07/17/2020
FIREF	KAIS, KORY K.	07/21/2020
HEQOP	LAUER, JAMES M.	07/27/2020
FCAPT	KLOCKOW, SCOTT L.	07/31/2020
PARFF	SEITZ, ROBERT S.	08/01/2020
HEQOP	JAMESON, BRIAN T.	08/07/2020
FIREF	HAWTHORNE, RICHARD M. JR.	08/19/2020
FIREF	POORE, JACOB M.	08/23/2020
FIREF	HOLZWORTH, STEVEN F.	08/30/2020
CADET	BEATTIE, RYAN E.	09/02/2020
FCAPT	WRIGHT, MICHAEL D.	09/09/2020
DEPCH	HAFEMANN, KEVIN D.	09/11/2020
FIDIS	BUDISH, RACHEL E.	09/13/2020
FIREF	HUNLEY, JOHN R.	09/29/2020
FAASR	HOGUE, GARY S.	10/01/2020
FIDIS	NEELEY-MCBRIDE, APRIL D.	10/06/2020
CADET	MAGESKI, AMANDA M.	10/06/2020
CADET	MANI-LEMKE, NOLAN J.	10/06/2020
CADET	CURTIN, RYAN M.	10/06/2020
CADET	SOLIS, ELIJAH R.	10/06/2020
CADET	BARNDT, ZACHARY J.	10/06/2020
CADET	KAMBERIS, LUCAS S.	10/08/2020
CADET	CARLOS ANDRES, KAREN D.	10/09/2020
FIREF	GONZALEZ, JESSICA F.	10/19/2020
FIREF	GIFFORD, ISABEL M.	10/19/2020
FHVAC	NOLINSKI, EDWARD A. JR.	10/28/2020
FIDIS	CHIN, STEPHANIE C.	10/30/2020
LIEUT	SCHERER, STEVEN R.	10/31/2020
FCAPT	OLINGER, MICHAEL J.	10/31/2020



SEPARATIONS – in date order

RANK	NAME	DATE LEFT
CHIEF	ROHLFING, MARK A.	10/31/2020
FCAPT	CURTIS, LANNY T.	11/01/2020
FIREF	CONWAY, BRIONA C.	11/09/2020
OFCO2	TAYLOR, CASSANDRA J.	11/14/2020
FIREF	LARSON, GREG A.	11/20/2020
HEQOP	SEYMOUR, KEVIN B.	11/28/2020
LIEUT	RAMSDELL, SPENCER K.	11/29/2020
AFCHF	SCHWENGEL, JOHN J.	12/01/2020
LIEUT	HART, KEVIN P.	12/01/2020
PARFF	JACOBSON, NOAH J.	12/08/2020
FIREF	BELL, TERRY A.	12/12/2020
ITSSP	GLEASON, MICHAEL T.	12/12/2020
CADET	RODRIGUEZ, SOFIA	12/15/2020
CADET	REED, SKY A.	12/17/2020
HEQOP	MARZ, PETER R.	12/18/2020
LIEUT	ZIMMERMANN, DAVID P.	12/19/2020
FIREF	MCGILL, MICHAEL A.	12/19/2020
FIREF	MAHER, JOHN J.	12/20/2020
HEQOP	ZIETLOW, DAVID W.	12/21/2020
FIREF	MEYER, CHRISTOPHER J.	12/23/2020
FIREF	KREBSBACH, DAVID R.	12/26/2020
LIEUT	BASS, DAVID J.	12/27/2020
HEQOP	GRIFFIN, PAUL R.	12/31/2020





Photos provided by Scott Carnahan of Greendale, Wisconsin, an avid fire photographer since 1985. The Milwaukee Fire Department thanks Mr. Carnahan for his interest in capturing the heart of the department in his authentic work, and for the use of his pictures in this 2020 MFD Annual Report.

MILWAUKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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